

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS

Claims 1-15 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 15, which are independent, have been amended. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the specification as originally filed. No new matter has been introduced by this amendment. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The Office Action objected to the title. The title has been amended, thereby obviating the objection.

III. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102(e)

Claims 1-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 6,097,811 to Micali.

Independent claim 1 now recites in part as follows:

“...wherein information which can obtain latest public key certificate information and lapse information of said latest public key certificate information are stored into said container entry and/or said leaf entry at a predetermined time interval.” (emphasis added)

As understood by Applicants, U.S. Pat. No. 6,097,811 to Micali (hereinafter, merely “Micali”), relates to managing certificates in a communication system having a certifying authority and a directory.

Applicants respectfully submit that nothing has been found in Micali that would teach or suggest that information which can obtain latest public key certificate information and lapse information of said latest public key certificate information are stored into said container entry and/or said leaf entry at a predetermined time interval, as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, independent claim 1 is believed to be patentable.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those described above with regard to claim 1, independent claims 5, 6, 9, 10, and 15 are believed to be patentable.

IV. DEPENDENT CLAIMS

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

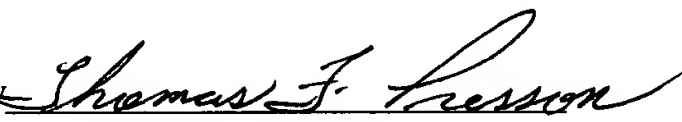
CONCLUSION

In the event the Examiner disagrees with any of statements appearing above with respect to the disclosure in the cited reference, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner specifically indicate the portion, or portions, of the reference, providing the basis for a contrary view.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,
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